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Appl. No. 10/695,445
Atty. Docket: 1481.0310000

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently Amended)   A weather-based decision system for providing business recommendations based on a set of weather driven demand data, comprising:

a confidence level filter ~~for assigning~~ configured to assign a first confidence level to data within the set of weather driven demand data based on a probability that a weather element forecast is accurate and a second confidence level to said data within the set of the weather driven demand data based on a strength of a correlation between a product or service being considered and one or more weather elements;

an opportunity matrix filter coupled to said confidence level filter ~~for assigning~~ and configured to assign an opportunity level to said data within the set of weather driven demand data based upon said first confidence level and said second confidence level;

a weather decision point generator coupled to said opportunity matrix filter ~~for generating~~ and configured to generate weather decision points;

a business rule recommendation engine coupled to said weather decision point generator ~~for providing~~ and configured to provide a business recommendation; and

a business rules knowledge database coupled to said business rule recommendation engine ~~that contains~~ and configured to contain business rules;

wherein the weather driven demand data indicates how a business activity is influenced by said one or more weather elements.

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2. (Currently Amended) The weather-based decision system of claim 1, further comprising a graphical user interface ~~for displaying~~ configured to display the weather driven demand data, said weather decision ~~points~~ points, and ~~business recommendations generated by~~ said business ~~rule~~ recommendation ~~engine~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The weather-based decision system of claim 1, further comprising an external database interface ~~that can be used~~ configured to access one or more external databases.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The weather-based decision system of claim 1, wherein said weather decision point generator ~~generates~~ is configured to generate said weather decision points by examining a weather element forecast confidence level, a weather element ~~forecast~~ forecast, and an opportunity level for a weather driven demand data point.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a business recommendation for a business activity based on one or more weather elements, comprising:

    (a)   receiving a weather element relationship for ~~a~~ the business activity;

    (b)   receiving weather driven demand data for a set of time periods;

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(c)   assigning weather element relationship confidence levels for the weather driven demand data;

(d)   assigning weather element forecast confidence levels for the one or more weather elements;

(c) (e) assigning opportunity measures to each of the data points within the weather driven demand data;

(d) (f) identifying weather decision points based on the weather element relationship confidence levels, the weather element forecast confidence levels, and the opportunity measures associated with a weather driven demand data point; and

(e) (g) applying business weather rules to the weather decision points identified in step (d) (f), thereby generating the business recommendation;

wherein the weather driven demand data indicates how a the business activity is influenced by the one or more weather elements.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The weather-based decision system of claim 4 1, wherein said probability is based on a relationship between the weather element forecast and at least one weather element prediction.

11. (Currently Amended) The weather-based decision system of claim 10, wherein said at least one said weather element prediction is based upon trends in weather element measurements.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein step (a) comprises:

receiving a plurality of weather element relationships for a the business activity.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

(f) (h) assigning the weather element relationship confidence levels by a geographic location for the weather driven demand data, wherein step (d) (f) further comprises using the weather element relationship confidence levels to identify the weather decision points.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

(f) (h) assigning the weather element relationship confidence levels by a time period for the weather driven demand data, wherein step (d) (f) comprises using the weather element relationship confidence levels to identify the weather decision points.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

(f) (h) assigning a the weather element forecast confidence level levels by a geographic location, wherein step (d) (f) comprises using the weather element forecast confidence levels to identify the weather decision points.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

~~(f)~~ (h) assigning ~~a~~ the weather element forecast confidence ~~level~~ levels by a time period, wherein step ~~(d)~~ (f) further comprises using the weather element forecast confidence levels to identify the weather decision points.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein step ~~(d)~~ (f) further comprises using opportunity matrix rules generated from historical business activity results that were influenced by the one or more weather elements to provide said opportunity measures.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~8~~ 7, wherein step ~~(f)~~ (c) further comprises assigning the weather element relationship confidence levels based on ~~the~~ a strength of ~~the~~ a correlation between a product or service being considered and the one or more weather elements.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~ 7, wherein step ~~(f)~~ (d) further comprises using ~~the~~ a relationship between ~~the~~ a weather element forecast and at least one weather element prediction to determine the weather element forecast confidence ~~level~~ levels.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein step ~~(f)~~ (d) further comprises using trends in weather element measurements to determine the at least one weather element prediction.

21. (Canceled)